



First Responder Network Authority Weekly Update to the State and Territory Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) – September 14, 2015

FirstNet News

- Preparations are underway for the upcoming SPOC meeting on October 7-8, 2015 in Westminster, CO. **Please register online via the [meeting registration website](#), where you will also find additional information regarding the draft agenda and hotel. As a reminder, the hotel room block closes on Monday, September 22.** To date, we have 41 states and territories registered to attend. We are designing this two-day meeting based on the feedback and successes of the Spring SPOC Meeting. In addition to the SPOCs, we have invited the PSAC Executive Committee members and the PSAC Tribal Working Group (TWG) members to attend. Following the SPOC meeting, TWG members will meet with staff to the National Caucus of Native American State Legislators (NCNASL).
- Last Friday, FirstNet released for information purposes only the updated Operational Architecture (Appendix C-7) to the Statement of Objectives. This version, which is not final, was updated based upon comments provided in response to the Special Notice and draft RFP documents issued on April 27, 2015. Please visit [FedBizOpps](#) and the [FirstNet blog](#) for additional information and documentation.
- This week, FirstNet will participate in the New York State Sheriffs Road Patrol Supervisors Training Seminar, the New York Undersheriffs and Supervisors meeting, the Missouri DPS Public Safety Communications Conference, the Delaware Volunteer Firefighter's Association conference, a meeting with the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Emergency Communications Preparedness Committee (ECPC) Steering Committee meeting, the Wisconsin Department of Justice Crime Information Bureau Annual Conference, and the EMS World Expo.
- Also this week, FirstNet will present at a meeting of eight Sioux Tribes that share territory with the state of South Dakota held at the Pine Ridge Reservation to discuss cellular deployment in conjunction with the statewide tribal Oceti Šakowin Power Project. The following week, FirstNet staff will join a regional tribal meeting hosted by the FCC's Office of Native Affairs & Policy (ONAP) in Rapid City.

- Last week, FirstNet participated in the Alaska initial consultation meeting and in a meeting at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC). Four FirstNet staff members traveled with the Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) to three Native villages to illustrate how good, mediocre, and non-existent broadband connectivity affects rural community life in Interior Alaska. The director of TCC's village public safety officer program accompanied the travelers.
- To date, FirstNet has held 50 initial State consultation meetings involving more than 3,400 public safety representatives. Future consultations are confirmed for: Arizona (9/29), Virginia (9/30), CNMI (10/20), Guam (10/22), and Oklahoma (10/28). An updated schedule can be viewed on the [website tracker](#).

News from the PSAC, States, and Territories

- Barry Fraser, who represents the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA) on the PSAC, was presented with the NATOA Member of the Year award at the association's annual conference last week.
- The next PSAC webinar will be September 22, and the PSAC Executive Committee (EC) will meet in Reston, VA on September 30.

Media Watch

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Traditional Media

There was significant media coverage this week on FirstNet activities, with several follow-on articles about the JerseyNet demonstration last week.

FirstNet Hires Prochaska to Lead Standards Work

<http://www.radioresourcemag.com/News/NewsDetails/NewsID/13391>

To spearhead the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) efforts in standards development, the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) hired Dean Prochaska as director of standards. Prochaska will be based out of the Boulder, Colorado, FirstNet technical headquarters, but will travel frequently to standards bodies meetings worldwide.

Federal News Radio: FirstNet Ramps Up, Finalizing RFP Before 2016

<http://federalnewsradio.com/mobility/2015/09/prospective-contractors-firstnet-see-final-rfp-2016/>

Contractors looking to submit proposals for the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) could see a final request for proposals draft available by December... Kennedy also said FirstNet plans on launching the network nationwide over the next five years in phases — the first of which involves transitioning current public safety networks onto the 700MHz spectrum.

GCN: FirstNet Rocks Test Deployment At Jersey shore

<http://gcn.com/articles/2015/09/04/nj-firstnet-concert-demo.aspx>

Massive amounts of network usage from thousands of people can degrade data transmission, resulting in a dangerous situation for first responders if they are relying on the same cell phone towers to communicate and operate surveillance cameras and command vehicles. So recent beach concerts in Atlantic City, N.J., provided an ideal opportunity to test JerseyNet, the state's public safety broadband network and a FirstNet Early Builder project focused on the use of deployable communications assets.

National Law Review: Pole Attachments, CII Spectrum, Wireless 911, TCPA, FirstNet, Regulatory Fees, Vol XII Issue 36

<http://www.natlawreview.com/article/pole-attachments-cii-spectrum-wireless-911-tcpa-firstnet-regulatory-fees-vol-xii>

FirstNet Cybersecurity- At its Industry Day last month, FirstNet indicated it plans to release a special notice in the coming weeks requesting input on network cybersecurity.

Native News Today: Robert DesRosier: First Responder Network Needs Input From Tribes

<http://www.nativenewstoday.com/2015/09/04/robert-desrosier-first-responder-network-needs-input-from-tribes/>

Robert DesRosier, the director of Homeland Security and Disaster and Emergency Services for the Blackfeet Nation in Montana, encourages tribes to help develop FirstNet, the nation's first public safety broadband network.

Web and Social Media

FirstNet social media was active this week on the Alaska consultation and the New Jersey BTOP demonstration. Twitter increased to 2,657 followers; LinkedIn increased to 946 users; YouTube increased to 158 subscribers; and Google+ has 52 users.

FirstNet posted blog entries this week included [Standards Development a Priority at FirstNet with New Hire](#), by Jeff Bratcher, FirstNet's Acting Chief Technology Officer, and [National Preparedness Month 2015: Don't Wait. Communicate. Make Your Emergency Plan Today](#), which was a repost from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). All blog posts can also be accessed through the FirstNet blog landing page at: www.firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog.